



THE CITY OF SAN DIEGO

Public Library

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Films Written and Produced by Local Teens to Premiere at 13th Annual San Diego Latino Film Festival

Films Produced as Part of "Youth Visions" Program of Library and Media Arts

SAN DIEGO – Four films produced by local San Diego teenagers will premiere at the 13th annual San Diego Latino Film Festival. The short films were created as part of the Teen Producers Project and Barrio Logan Project: "Youth Visions," presented by Media Arts Center of San Diego and the City of San Diego Public Library. The films will be shown Wednesday, March 15 at 6 p.m. at UltraStar Mission Valley Cinemas Hazard Center, located at 7510 Hazard Center Drive. A special advance screenings for local students will also take place at 10 a.m. the same day.

With the Teen Producers Project, professional media artists familiarize youth from all backgrounds, ages 9-18, with multiple media technologies and the art making process, stressing teamwork, creativity, self-esteem and critical thinking. The projects mission is to educate youth in media arts and emerging technologies for use in self-expression, communication and social change. Using video production, computer art and the Internet, these students address community issues, access advanced communication technology and gain inclusion in our information-based society. Funding for the project comes from a California State Library grant through the Library Services and Technology Act.

The four student films that will be shown, include:

"To Reach My Goals"

Two students from Barrio Logan share their experiences of trying to reach higher education. With the support of their parents and family, help from community education organizations, and outreach from the local junior college they hope to achieve their dreams. (*Dir. Jessica Andrade, Jessica Gonzalez, Rachel Valerio, Gabi Correa, U.S.A., 2006, 10 min., video, English and Spanish w/ English Subtitles*)

"Staying in This Barrio"

Rising rents and a lack of affordable housing drive families from the Barrio Logan area. However, some developers want to provide more low-income housing and services to provide for people in the neighborhood. (*Dir. Madai Gardnuo, Rubi Espinoza, John Ozuna, U.S.A., 2006, 10 min., video, English and Spanish w/ English Subtitles*)

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“Working for a Living Wage”

Language barriers, lack of citizenship, and criminal records are only a few of the struggles people face when trying to find a job. The efforts of the Employment Resource Center in Barrio Logan, is helping people to overcome those challenges and find employment that supports their families. (Dir. Jemal Osman, Fitsum Negussie, Stephanie Romero, Sebastian Velazquez, U.S.A., 2005, 10 min., video, English and Spanish w/ English Subtitles)

“Unity, Community, and Organization”

Residents of Barrio Logan, Logan Heights and Sherman Heights formed Barrios Unidos Hoy Organizados (United Neighborhoods Organized Today) to fight the issues confronting their communities. Together they push for political leaders to clean the streets, fix public lighting, save cultural and artistic landmarks, and stop the rising housing costs that force families out of the community. (Dir. Filmon Ticho, Dereje Tegaw, Sonia Alvarado, Joseph Romero, U.S.A., 2005, 10 min., video, English and Spanish w/ English Subtitles)

There will also be a number of other films shown as part of the festival. For a complete schedule, please visit: www.sdlatinofilm.com.

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About the City of San Diego Public Library

Founded in 1882, the City of San Diego Public Library system includes the Central Library, 34 branch libraries, an adult literacy program office (READ/San Diego), and a special outlet facility (Environmental Services Library). More than 6 million people visit the library locations each year. For more information, visit the Library on the City’s Web site at www.sandiego.gov/public-library.

About Media Arts Center San Diego

Media Arts Center San Diego (MACSD) is a nonprofit organization with a mission to nurture and support media artists working in film, video, audio, and computer-based multimedia. The San Diego Latino Film Festival was originally established as a student film festival since that time, the festival has developed into one of the larger and most well respected Latino film festivals in the country. More than 120,000 people have attended and over 1,000 films/videos from across Latin America and the United States have been screened. For more information about MACSD and the San Diego Latino Film Festival, visit www.mediaartscenter.org or www.sdlatinofilm.com or call 619-230-1938.

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NOTE TO MEDIA: View and download images and register for press credentials for the film festival at <http://sdlatinofilm.com/Press/press.html>